



Job title	Trainee Animal Technician	Job family and level	Technical Services Trainee
School/ Department	Bio Support Unit (BSU)	Location	Medical School

Purpose of role

To contribute to the high standards of animal husbandry and welfare within BSU within the University of Nottingham.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	Training under supervision <ul style="list-style-type: none">To undertake the husbandry and welfare of a range of laboratory, aquatic and farm animal speciesTo breed both inbred and outbred animals, including transgenic lines. Maintaining accurate record keeping in electronic and traditional formats as required under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (ASPA)To successfully undertake appropriate theoretical and practical training determined by the NTCO and Director of BSUOperate and maintain equipment, including ventilated cages to ensure high standard of bio-containment	60%
2	Cleaning and Hygiene <ul style="list-style-type: none">To maintain exacting standards of hygiene within the animal holding and procedure areas	25%
3	Record keeping <ul style="list-style-type: none">To record details of temperature, humidity and husbandry procedures. Reporting any cause for concern to ensure that legislative requirements and animal welfare is metEnsuring information relating to charges for work done within BSU is accurately and timely recordedUse of Labtracks laboratory management system	10%
4	Health and Safety <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensuring compliance with work related health and safety standards	5%

Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Able to handle laboratory rodents ▪ Good communication skills (verbal and written) ▪ Ability to follow instruction ▪ Ability to plan and organise tasks ▪ Good basic mathematical skills including mental arithmetic ▪ High standards of accuracy ▪ Good IT skills ▪ Awareness of Health & Safety and COSHH 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience in Animal Husbandry and Welfare
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evidence of looking after animals including pet species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Animal husbandry background ▪ Practical experience in the husbandry, breeding and welfare of either rabbits, rodents or farm animals
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum of a good standard of education evidenced by up to 4 GCSEs (grade C and above) or equivalent, including Maths, a Science Subject and English 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An animal husbandry or welfare qualification
Statutory, legal or special requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No rodents to be maintained as household pets ▪ Ability to lift bulky objects up to 12.5 kg in weight and undertake a physically demanding role ▪ Ability to work weekends and Public Holidays on a rota basis ▪ Satisfactory basic disclosure is obtained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Full UK Driving Licence

Additional Information

The Trainee Technician role allows BSU to develop individuals with the key skills to underpin the operation of the unit. Role holders are trained to conduct the practical day-to-day husbandry and hygiene routines within the facilities under direct supervision. At the same time trainee technicians are required to successfully undertake the Institute of Animal Technology Level 2 Diploma in Laboratory Animal Science and Technology to give the required academic understanding of the Animal Technician role.

Flexible and out of hours working on a regular (rota) basis is required with additional payments for weekend, Bank and University holiday working. Cross site working is required and a driving licence / car ownership would be of benefit (although a hopper bus is available).

The use of IT to capture data, plus excellent communication with senior research colleagues is an essential aspect of this role. Modern bio-containment for the valuable transgenic colonies requires a technical understanding of the advanced caging and life support systems in use. The role holder will

set up and conduct routine maintenance of such equipment. Importantly the role holder will also work as part of a team to ensure that the operational requirements of the BSU as a whole are met.

The underpinning knowledge gained through the successful completion of the Institute of Animal Technology Level 2 Diploma in Laboratory Animal Science and Technology is key to meeting the full requirements of the animal technician role. The trainee technician must obtain this qualification within 12 months of appointment.



The University of Nottingham is focused on embedding equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. As part of this, we welcome a diverse population to join our work force and therefore encourage applicants from all communities, particularly those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

Valuing people	Is open and welcoming of others, approachable and respectful. Considers the wider point of view and delivers appropriate support and guidance to colleagues.
Taking ownership	Shows initiative and takes responsibility for own actions. Offers clarity and tactful support to colleagues to aid decisions and actions.
Forward thinking	Demonstrates the ability to learn, and enjoys the opportunity to develop. Likes to share and implement new ideas and improvements in their area of work. Seeks feedback from others.
Professional pride	Is self-appraising, seeking feedback from others and acts as a great role-model at all times. Keen to deliver the job well and be an effective member of the team.
Always inclusive	Is sensitive to the needs of others and understands every person is important, right across the organisation, irrespective of level, culture, disability or any other characteristic.

Key relationships with others

Line manager

Departmental
Area Manager

Role holder

Trainee
Animal
Technician

Key stakeholder
relationships

Colleagues

Students

